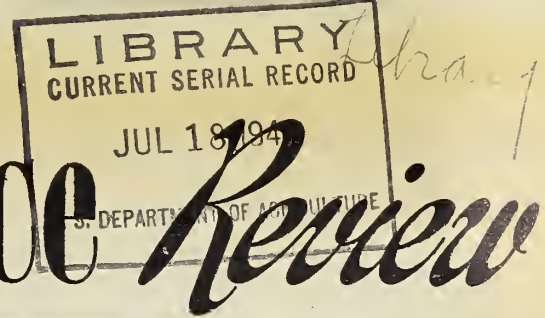


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# Extension Service *Review*

VOLUME 15 JULY 1944 NO. 7

## Three decades of extension work July 1, 1914–July 1, 1944

Two tidal waves of war, and the backwash of the first World War have set the stage for extension work. Only a short time before the first conflict began, the Smith-Lever Act was passed by Congress and signed by the President. It is doubtful if this Nation could have turned out the tremendous quantities of food and fiber during the present war if it had not been for the painstaking spread of scientific research into actual farm practice developed between two world wars. Milestones along the path fall into three general periods.

### The First World War 1914–1918

- Crop failures in 1916 were accentuated by hungry armies and devastated farms in war-torn Europe.
- More food must be produced . . . conservation is the watchword . . . Food Administration set up to conserve food and eliminate waste.
- 1,600 new emergency demonstration agents, men and women, set to work.
- The prairies are plowed to sow wheat . . . food and more food is the message carried by extension agents to farmers.
- Seed is a problem . . . 132,000 farmers helped to obtain seed . . . labor is scarce . . . 66,000 laborers supplied in Northern and Western States . . . war gardens flourish . . . 160,000 helped with war gardens.
- Canning schools are everywhere . . . agents demonstrate canning in every hamlet and crossroads . . . 335 canning centers established in 33 States . . . 3 million women reached with the war message of conservation.
- 300,000 cattle moved from dry Texas to good pastures in the East to conserve meat supply.
- November 11, Armistice Day, and the war is over . . . the farms must go back to a peacetime program.

### Between Two World Wars 1919–1938

- Armies back to work . . . devastated farms in Europe again planted . . . food exports shrink . . . farm plant geared to big production . . . surpluses accumulate.
- Drought . . . plowed-up prairies blow . . . great Dust Bowl develops, bringing hard times for farmers.
- Surpluses mount . . . too much cotton, too much wheat . . . agents work on marketing problems . . . help with cooperative marketing . . . economic and marketing surveys . . . more economics . . . education program strengthened.
- Farm Board struggles with surplus problem . . . agents give whole-hearted cooperation.
- Seed loans, relief measures . . . 1931 drought lays barren vast farm areas . . . Secretary designates drought counties . . . agents help move cattle out of drought area or get hay in.
- Depression grows . . . relief for low-income farmer . . . canning centers, home food supply.
- AAA tackles surplus problems . . . agents work early and late explaining regulations, straightening tangles.
- New agencies multiply to meet increasing needs. FSA, SCS, FCA, REA, and others set up in counties with help of agent.

- Surpluses still haunt agriculture . . . conservation of the soil looms large . . . parity payments, liberalized credit are part of agents' work.
- Farm income goes up . . . again war clouds gather in Europe.

### The Second World War 1939–1944

- Conflagration in Europe vitalizes defense . . . food is first line of defense . . . strengthening the weakest link . . . nutrition becomes extension watchword . . . make America strong by making Americans stronger . . . 5 million cotton mattresses a monument to home demonstration work in effort to cut the cotton surplus.
- Land use planning to solve problems . . . county land use planning committees appointed . . . reports bring together valuable information . . . discussion groups flourish.
- Food is a weapon . . . defense goals set, more milk, more pork, more dried beans, more tomatoes, more eggs . . . lend-lease brings demand from war-weary countries . . . extension staff go all out in achieving goals.
- Bumper crops of 1942 quickly absorbed by war needs . . . more food needed . . . work longer, harder . . . several thousand extra personnel helped enlist emergency farm labor in 1943 . . . 6,150 farm placement offices opened . . . 3½ million workers placed.
- Neighborhood leaders trained to carry war messages to farm families . . . anti-inflation information . . . help with rationing, draft deferment.
- Victory Gardens planted on farms and city lots . . . agents talk seeds, fertilizer, insects, to many million gardeners.
- Conservation in the limelight . . . save metal scrap, save fat, machinery clinics save farm machinery . . . eliminate fire and accident waste . . . save food, 4 billion cans preserved in 1943 . . . save money and buy bonds.
- Grow more in '44 . . . 800 war food production and conservation specialists go to work . . . 1,164 former agents fighting their country's battles at front . . . Extension Service still carriers on to win the war.



# The next 30 years

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

■ Extension work grew out of the needs of rural people. Its record for 30 years has shown it to be an instrument for good which rests primarily in the hands of rural people. Extension work is not an instrument of pressure groups or an agency for which any political party can claim special interests. Its success goes back to the principle of cooperation, which was basic in its founding. Even before the Smith-Lever Act became a reality, farmers in many parts of the country had learned that most of the problems facing them could be solved through obtaining an intelligent understanding and appraisal of the facts, coupled with a sincere effort at cooperation. Providing the facts became the job of the Extension Service.

In the past few years we have seen tremendous developments in the field of applied science. Right now we are holding our breath to see whether scientific man can organize the conditions under which people live on a human basis, or whether man is to go back to a new form of barbarism.

The present world-wide war represents a climactic phase which will show whether science shall be allied with good or evil. Any thoughts about the future must, therefore, hinge on the outcome of the present world struggle. Any looking ahead must be on the basis of hope and faith in Victory, rather than in the form of predictions of things to come.

## Adult Education Will Expand

Currently we hear educational leaders say frequently that the post-war period will require a great deal more emphasis on adult education. The results achieved in the training of military personnel make it obvious that education should not stop at the fourth or the eighth grade. As we look into the future, we can see an ever greater use of extension principles in the whole field of adult education.

When hostilities cease, we may expect a world-wide movement in agriculture which will express an interest in extension work among the working farmers of many countries. This world-wide interest in better farming and farm living will draw considerably from the experiences we in the United States have acquired in 30 years of extension work.

Science will continue its forward march. Application of science in agriculture will move with greater rapidity than at any time in the past. We need

only to mention developments such as those coming out of the experiments carried on at the Beltsville Research Center and at some of our State agricultural experiment stations. They demonstrate the power of scientific progress that is not confined to improving germ plasm.

On a recent trip to the West Director B. H. Crocheron of the California Extension Service showed me a settlement of Portuguese farmers in the San Francisco area. These farmers today have the same number of cows they had in 1920; but during the short interim of 24 years, the milk production of their herds has been doubled through the use of scientific feeding, sanitation, and breeding—a splendid example of extension work meeting its responsibility.

## Time and Distance Spanned

Today man can fly from Los Angeles to New York in 6 hours. Any distance between two points in the entire Western Hemisphere can be spanned under satisfactory conditions in 48 hours. In the matter of communications, distance and time have been practically wiped out. Think seriously about these developments. What scientific agriculture has done with genetics and improvement in livestock management is fully as important as what our engineers have done in aviation or in industrial manufacture. All are a part of the kaleidoscopic changes we may expect in the whole field of science and technology.

Whether extension work will continue to be largely concerned with the transfer of science and research into applied practice; whether we shall continue to be concerned chiefly with the technology of the farm and household; or whether we can continue our leadership in these fields and add to it something deeper than science are questions we shall have to face after the war. According to geologists, the human family has inhabited our planet for approximately 700,000 years. Those figures are not supposed to be exact. They merely express magnitude and give us the picture that man has been man for a long time. Through these centuries, scientific progress was very slow—until about 150 years ago. Since then, developments in science have been ever more rapid. After the first World War, for instance, much emphasis was placed on agricultural economics. Today we know that an understanding of agricultural economics is important

for all who want to engage in teaching agriculture. But, in the face of technological developments, we need to go beyond economics.

Definitely linked with the welfare of mankind is a field which I like to call the science of man. I should like to see our agricultural colleges develop a course in the science of man. Such a course would bring together all that science tells us about the nature of man. By the time the student had completed such a course, he would have found that a considerable amount of knowledge about our existence is not covered in present-day textbooks. He would find that religion and environment play as important a part in our spiritual development as nutrition and chemistry do in our physical well-being.

Such a course could be made the elementary stepping stone toward greater interest and participation by those who graduate from our agricultural colleges, particularly extension workers, in efforts to work out patterns of living in an age of modern technology. For, if we use wisdom as well as knowledge about technology and science, if we stress philosophy and ethics as well as physics and mechanical knowledge, we have it in our power to develop a higher form of civilization than mankind has yet seen. Placing emphasis on how to live as well as on how to make a living provides the Extension Service with a real challenge.

## Things Will Be Different

Yes, things will be different in the next 30 years from things as they were in the period, 1914 to 1918. In the past 10 years, numerous administrative agencies have come into the field. Most of these, in my opinion, are here to stay to the extent that they provide certain services which farmers need and want. This means that though the Extension Service is not the only agency serving the rural public, it is agriculture's educational agency, on which farmers and the other agencies rely cooperatively for educational leadership.

So extension work in the future will require an even higher degree of professional training than in the past. We may expect an expansion of the services we are called upon to render especially in county offices. With such an expansion of services and programs will come improved opportunities in the way of working conditions, income, security, and retirement provisions, and other features that are commensurate with the degree of responsibility involved.

All these are things to which we and those from among us who are now in the military service may look forward.



# History repeats itself

ANDREW W. HOPKINS, Editor, University of Wisconsin

■ Extension, like history, is repeating itself.

For, strikingly similar to those offered 25 years ago to war-weary housewives are the suggestions given today by extension workers to busy homemakers.

Although ration books have added perplexities to 1944 food shopping, homemakers of a quarter of a century ago were also confronted with certain shortages. Five extension bulletins issued by the University of Wisconsin in the last war reflect the food situation in 1917 and 1918, and a similar number indicate some of the food problems of the shopper of today.

On the cover of a 1917-18 circular, *How to Cook Soybeans*, are the words: "Soybeans have long been used in this country as a food for animals. The United States Department of Agriculture has recently suggested them as a food for man."

Since then, we've certainly come a long way in our regard for the nutritious soybean, for today it is high up in the list in public interest. We find Wisconsin homemakers have recently been offered a "best seller" in "*Soybean Dishes—New and Old*."

What Shall We Eat on Wheatless and Meatless Days? was the subject of a World War I extension circular when cooks contended with wheat as well as with meat shortages. Offered in 1918 were oatmeal-flour bread, barley bread, corn-flour bread, and even rice bread! Victory bread was the common loaf of the Allies, says another circular, made of at least 20 percent substitute flours

and 80 percent of wheat flour. The housewife, it seems, had to purchase 20 pounds of substitute flours for each 80 pounds of wheat flour or buy the Victory mixed flour made up in those proportions.

The following sentence from another 1918 bulletin might have been taken from a 1944 bulletin: "Not only are fats needed to feed a fighting army, but they are also necessary for making many kinds of munitions for that army. Wasting fats now or using more than necessary is unpatriotic."

Again, a World War I circular has been echoed in World War II. Other Ways to Cook Potatoes was designed to put across the tuber in place of wheat, though this time there is emphasis on the potato for good nutrition in thrifty meals. A current USDA circular suggests "Potatoes in Low-Cost Meals."

Fish to fill in on meatless days was common in the last war, and homemakers are using it again. A unique approach to the fish problem was suggested in 1917, "Twelve Ways to Cook Carp!"—a fish sometimes found in Wisconsin waters. Scalloped carp, carp salad, and savory carp stew were three of the ways cited. Although carp has not had much attention as far as food use goes, recent studies have shown that carp liver is very high in Vitamin A and may be used commercially.

No matter what the year, or the circumstance, homemakers are always faced with some food problem. And often the solution, whether in World War I or World War II, has proved "There's nothing new under the sun."

## Extension anniversary in Mississippi and Nebraska

The Mississippi and Nebraska extension people observed the thirtieth anniversary in different ways.

Mississippi Extension Service observed the anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act by having supper. The celebration was postponed from May 8 to May 15 as most of the workers were to be at State College for a conference at that time. Six present Mississippi extension workers, who were members of the extension force at the time of the signing of the Smith-Lever Act, were honored at the supper. These workers were H. A. Carpenter, county agent, Sunflower County; J. W. Whitaker, county agent, Washington County; J. W. Willis, extension cotton specialist; L. A. Higgins, extension dairyman; J. E. Tanner, administrative assistant; and W. C. Mims, northeast district agent, State College.

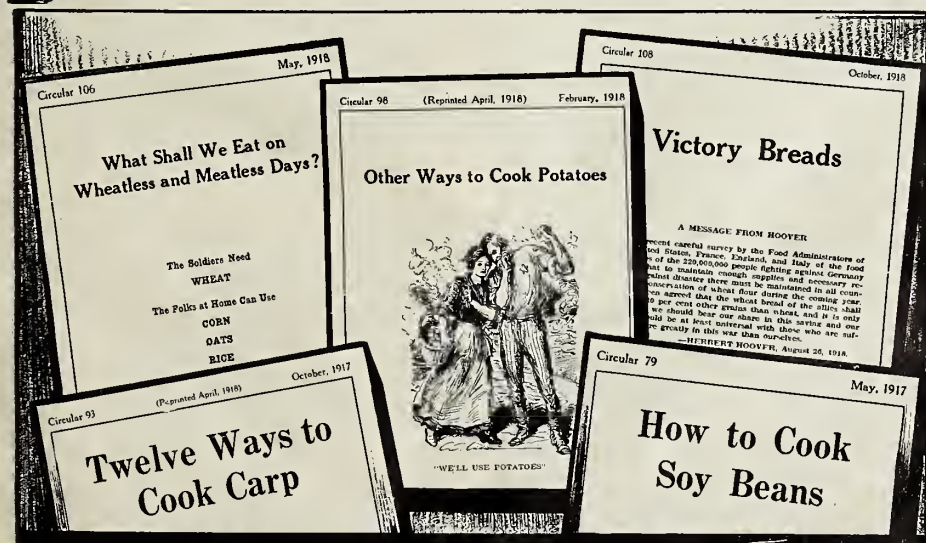
Other present members of the staff who were also extension workers in 1914 included G. C. Mingee, county agent, De Coto County; May Ellen Haddon, extension nutritionist, State College; Mary Ella Doney, extension food preservation specialist, State College; A. E. Terry, county agent, Tate County; M. M. Hubert, Negro district agent, Jackson; and Harris Barnes, county Agent, Coahoma County.

The interesting program of music and talks included a historical sketch of the Federal Extension Service, by Reuben Brigham, Assistant Director of the Federal Extension Service, who was taking part in the conference.

In Nebraska extension workers commemorated the anniversary by a story on Turning Back the Clock in the May issue of the Nebraska Agricultural Extension Service News. Names and pictures of extension workers employed before 1919 are given. These include V. S. Culver, C. W. Pugsley, C. E. Gunnels, W. H. Brokaw, E. H. Hoppert, Mary Ellen Brown, Harry G. Gould, J. F. Lawrence, LaVern Henderson, Neva England, George H. Kellogg, A. H. DeLong, J. H. Purbaugh, L. I. Frisbie, Jessie Greene, N. W. Gaines.

## Appreciation event

This year for the first time, the Orange County, N. Y., 4-H Council sponsored the appreciation banquet for 4-H Club leaders with an attendance of 50 leaders and guests. The council gave the leaders 4-H pencils, place cards, 4-H napkins, and a year's subscription for the National 4-H Club News. Flag sets of the 4-H and American flags were given to three 20-year leaders.





# How many workers?

**B. H. CROCHERON, Director, California Extension Service**

■ The State Farm Labor office in California and all of its 130 county farm labor offices are planning and working as diligently and as intelligently as possible to anticipate the needs of California farmers and growers.

A comprehensive survey, made last winter and during the early spring by the field personnel of the farm labor offices, has provided the first detailed picture of our seasonal labor needs by crops, by area, and by weeks and months.

The survey, unique in the annals of agricultural labor reporting, is a practical attempt to determine the actual number of workers that should be on hand in local areas to handle the specific farm activities of that area.

California, with more than 200 different commercial crops, and with farming activities going on in every month of the year, is vulnerable insofar as available manpower is concerned. It will be necessary to plan into the future if the harvests of the peak months of August, September, and October are to be gathered.

It is hoped that the farm labor survey will prove a valuable guide in determining local needs well in advance of an emergency and will enable the farm labor offices to route migrant workers and to recruit volunteers in their own communities and from large cities to meet the situation.

## Survey Shows Labor Needs

In agriculture, needs arise suddenly and recede as suddenly. If a critical local labor situation arises, we suffer serious losses. The farm labor survey, based on acreages, production, crop distribution, and worker outputs, will indicate the approximate numbers of workers needed.

Volunteers and migrant workers, the crux of California's agricultural picture this year as in 1943, must be depended on for a major portion of the seasonal harvest work.

Forty-five harvest camps for girls, women, and boys are already scheduled to meet peak needs. The first of the camps opened early in June in Kern and Contra Costa Counties, with others opening later in June. Fifteen camps are to start in July, 11 in August, and a few are scheduled to start in September and October.

Increased interest in harvest camps for this season is reflected in the greater number scheduled.

Twenty-three counties, from Tehama

in the north to San Diego in the south, have filed requests for 45 camps, an even dozen more than in 1943 and with 7 additional counties participating. About 4,000 women, girls, and boys will be needed to fill the camps.

Most of the camps are for periods of 2 to 4 or 5 weeks; although many of them will be open for nearly the entire summer, and a few will be in operation for several months.

The work entails picking and packing fruit, berries, nuts, and some of the vegetable crops.

Last year, farm labor reports reveal, more than 55,000 high school and college boys and girls engaged in harvest work, with the great majority in day-to-day jobs near their homes. Nearly 30,000 women spent some time in the harvest fields. Demands on workers this year are expected to double these totals.

## Army Wives Volunteer

In the Lompoc and Santa Maria areas of California, wives of army men are volunteering for the Women's Land Army; and, according to Irene Fagin, State leader of the Women's Land Army, "the army women were performing very satisfactorily in field and harvesting tasks."

Mexican nationals, those fine workers from south of the border, again will contribute largely to the harvesting of the crops; but, as in 1943, their numbers are necessarily limited. California's quota, as set by the War Food Administration, is not expected to reach maximum figures, 33,000, until September.

Farmers and growers, as early as May 15, had requested more than 48,000 for September's peak harvests, but no more than the 33,000 maximum may be expected.

It is hoped that war prisoners may provide some relief as the peak harvest months of August, September, and October approach. These men are being considered, and plans are being completed for the utilization of their services; but, frankly, we are not certain how efficient they may desire to be or how successful will be their participation.

Last year hundreds of men on leave from the armed services contributed valuable aid during both short and extended leave periods. In addition, other hundreds were available in areas where a definite emergency threatened service-allocated crops and potential food supplies.

The farmers have again responded to

a patriotic appeal to do more than their share; the fertile soil and the sunshine are doing their share; the rains, slow in coming, were a help during the late spring months.

Prospects in most counties are reported as better than good. Fruit, notably apricots and peaches, despite the heavy hail damage, probably will be very good. Truck crops loom large. Farmers, largely, have done their best to meet increased agricultural goals for 1944. The acreage planted, the current advance crop reports, and estimates of probable yields all indicate that California's share of the Nation's food-production responsibilities will be met.

The 1944 harvests, if favorable factors maintain throughout the next few months, may produce another record crop which, in turn, will produce a compelling need for seasonal workers beyond anything this State has ever experienced.

## 100-percent membership record

The Minnesota Home Demonstration Agent Association held its annual meeting at the University Farm Campus Cafeteria, St. Paul, Minn., on April 26, during the State Food Preservation Working Conference, with 31 agents present.

The association pointed with pride to its 100-percent membership record. New officers elected were: President, Elizabeth Burr, Hennepin County; vice president, Mrs. Eleanor Loomis, Winona County; secretary, Barbara Molmen, Brown County; treasurer, Lenore Golden, Redwood County. Elizabeth Burr was authorized to attend the National Home Demonstration Association Convention in Chicago in June.

One activity of the association is the maintenance of a fund for lending a specified amount to a number of deserving home economic students at the university.

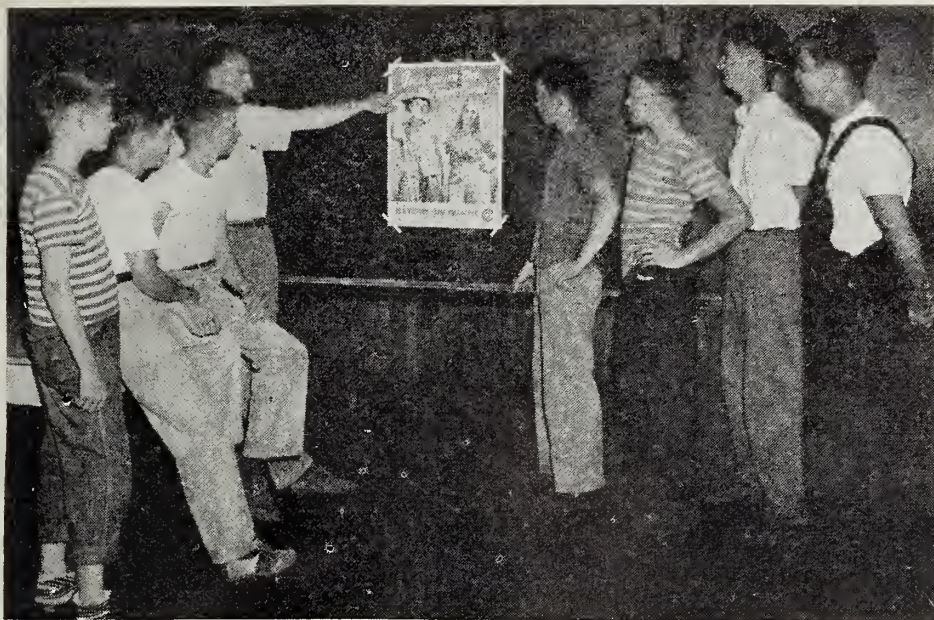
The 4-H Club and rural youth committees worked out resolutions for unifying policies of those organizations in the different counties.

## While mothers meet

Children attending the Ever Ready Home Demonstration club in Benton County, Ark., have their own good time when the better-babies leader tells them stories and teaches them nursery rhymes and songs. Later, during the social hour, the children entertain their mothers with the rhymes and songs they have learned. The leader says the club members are pleased and the children trained.



# VFV's keep 'em rolling



Coach Lou Bostick, football player on the University of Alabama team playing at Rose Bowl in 1937, came with the 57 boys he recruited at Bessemer High School.

■ Alabama city and town boys took their places on the farm front to help save the Irish potato crop in Baldwin County in May.

Farmers having planted 24,000 acres, a 60-percent increase over 1943, expected a bumper crop.

G. J. Fowler, Alabama farm labor supervisor; Frank C. Turner, Baldwin County agricultural agent; and Howard Blair, assistant county agent, got the cooperation of schools in recruiting boys for farm work. In late winter high-school teachers and athletic coaches hung the posters "Join us on the Farm Front! Be a Victory Farm Volunteer of the U. S. Crop Corps." They told boys between the ages of 14 and 17 that they could help keep their brothers in the Armed Forces well fed by getting this vital food crop out of the ground. If they would finish their school work and pass their examinations the boys would be excused two or three weeks early to go to the Baldwin County potato fields and shipping sheds.

Patriotic and enthusiastic for jobs in the open air the boys concentrated on their studies. When the day came for embarking on their new adventure, 817 healthy, fine lads had qualified and were ready for the big job ahead.

Boys representing 38 counties of Alabama boarded the train at Birmingham, Bessemer, Auburn, and other towns and cities. Sons of business executives, professors at Auburn, and of men in different walks of life

were ready for camp life and work.

Trains unloaded these VFV's at Bay Minette and at towns farther down the line. Baldwin County school busses transported them from the stations to camps that had been set up in school-houses, a farmers' community building, and one camp was in a 4-H Clubhouse. The same busses carried the boys back and forth from camp to work.

Previous to the boys' arrival, 11 camps had been put in readiness. A convoy of approximately 40 State Highway and U. S. Army trucks had taken cots, mattresses, and blankets to the several VFV camps. Supervisors—one for each 26 boys—came with the boys. Cooks and other help had arrived.

Teachers, athletic coaches, assistant county agents, and other men served as camp supervisors. They trained the boys for their work and emphasized safety measures.

Duties of supervisors varied. Some supervised the boys in the fields, others in the shipping sheds, whereas others purchased food and planned meals, which were well balanced, with good nourishing food essential for men doing hard work. All were responsible for supervision and recreation while boys were off duty.

Thirty days of rain and blight took a tremendous toll of the potato crop, the production being only 30 percent of normal, 980,000 bushels. Stem rot necessitated extra care at the grading machines, some shipping sheds washing and drying potatoes before sacking them.

Of the 817 boys, 543 worked at the sheds grading, trucking, or sewing sacks, and 274 picked potatoes in the fields. They picked in wire baskets and emptied into 100-pound sacks. Of the 11 camps, 3 were for the 133 Negro boys who picked in the fields.

At the sheds the older boys did the harder work, such as trucking and piling the 100-pound sacks of potatoes into the cars, while the smaller boys worked on the grader or sewed sacks.

VFV's graded potatoes at the sheds.





Camps had a democratic form of government. The boys made their own rules and abided by them. They elected their president, their mayor, squad leaders, and other officers. Their own camp songs and cheers indicated the school spirit that prevailed. Few accidents and little sickness occurred. If there were any sickness that the nurse who visited each camp daily, could not take care of, the boys were taken to a doctor. Probably more sunburn lotion was used than was any medicine.

Average earnings, after living expenses at camps (\$1.00 a day) were deducted ranged from \$1.55 a day for picking potatoes to \$3.50 a day for work at the sheds. The largest amount cleared by any of the boys was \$104.00.

## Black locust growers have their "3,000 Clubs" in Idaho

**VERNON F. RAVENSCROFT, Assistant Extension Forester, Idaho**

■ Potato growers have their "spud" kings; dairymen have their record-holding cows; and, although there is no official organization, Idaho black locust growers have their "3,000 Club."

The "3,000 Club" is composed mainly of demonstration wood-lot owners who have become acquainted with one another through extension forestry work and who now compete with one another to see who will turn in the greatest yield from his demonstration wood lot. Probably not more than 1 man in 15 obtains a yield of 3,000 posts per acre or more on a grove that is less than 15 years old. Most recent comer to this select group of locust growers is Frank Inlow of Wendell, Idaho, who recently cut one-third of his demonstration wood lot and found that, on the basis of this sample, the fence post yield in his 14-year-old black locust grove was equivalent to 3,120 fence posts to the acre.

Of course Mr. Inlow saved the extra straight trees for wagon tongues; he cut the large 8- to 12-inch logs extra long for gate and special corner posts; and he salvaged several cords of fuel wood, single-tree sticks, hammer handles, and similar raw-wood items from his wood-lot harvest. In order that this grove might be compared with other outstanding locust wood lots, all the trees were measured in terms of 6½-foot fence posts. The logs from 6 inches to 7.9 inches at the small end were measured as two first-class split posts, from 8 to 9.9 inches as three first-class splits, and from 10 to 12 inches as four first-class

Each week they deposited the bulk of their earnings with one of the supervisors who acted as banker, bought war bonds and stamps, or sent their money home.

Baldwin County farmers said they could not have harvested the essential food crop without the assistance of the VFV's. Besides being satisfied that they had done something in the war effort the boys had earned good, cold cash and had enjoyed camp life. The older ones had hardened their muscles to be in better condition for entering Uncle Sam's armed forces or to work in essential industries while the younger ones were better fitted for work on later crops and stronger for their part in athletics at their schools next fall.

split posts. By harvesting only the lee-side section of the grove first, Mr. Inlow adequately conserved the wind protection which this grove provides for his farm buildings, garden plot, and stock-yards.

The wood-lot harvest at the Inlow farm serves as an excellent demonstration of locust utilization in many ways. For instance, the harvested section was clear-cut after the trees were dormant. The trees were cut with a Swedish bow saw and were cut as near the ground line as possible. Such a procedure assures several fast-growing sprouts from each stump during the coming growing season. Mr. Inlow will thin this sprout stand to one healthy stem per stump some time next summer (preferably in August); and in 2 years' time this newly cut section of the grove will provide adequate wind protection, and at that time the remainder of the grove can be harvested. In from 7 to 10 years the new sprout growth will have again reached post maturity, and Mr. Inlow will be ready for his third substantial timber harvest in less than 25 years.

This outstanding grove was established 14 years ago in cooperation with the University of Idaho Extension Service and has served as a demonstration unit to point out the proper care, composition, and spacing for a south-central Idaho farm wood lot. The grove was planted on clean cultivated land. Small 1-year-old seedlings were used as planting stock. For the first few years this grove was cultivated just like any other

farm crop. It was protected from grazing for the first 3 years, but since that time it has been used as a shade ground for a limited number only of the Inlow livestock.

### Grove Is Grazed Springly

Grazing of locust wood lots is not usually recommended; for most people overstock the grove, and the trees suffer. It is known that in some wood lots overgrazing is so severe that many of the adult trees are actually killed by cattle trampling or using the trees as a rubbing bar. When grazed conservatively and carefully observed, a grove can give valuable protection to the livestock, and they in turn will keep down the heavy weed growth which represents a very serious fire hazard. Under no circumstances should a grove be grazed before the trees have grown beyond the reach of livestock and are sufficiently strong to withstand any attempt by a hungry animal to ride them down. It usually takes from 3 to 5 years for trees to reach this size.

Pruning accounts for the quality yield of the Inlow grove. These trees had been so pruned as to give one tall, straight, clear trunk. The straight wagon tongues and the 12-inch gate-posts which Mr. Inlow took from his grove can be attributed to his careful pruning work.

Southern Idaho was originally a treeless desert country, and farmers on the irrigated lands have always turned to the university for recommendations as to where, when, and what trees to plant. They recognize the fact that Mr. Inlow's demonstration represents University of Idaho recommendations, and it has been of value to them to have an actual example in the community from which they could draw conclusions and obtain information. Inlow's grove is recognized throughout the Wendell neighborhood, and farmers frequently visit the demonstration to obtain pointers as to what they should do in the management of their own groves. Having actual concrete examples in the field where farmers can study them has also served as an excellent means of encouraging the establishment of new windbreaks and wood lots.

### 1,133,000 trees planted

This spring 4-H and vocational agriculture boys and girls will plant 1,133,000 evergreen trees on farm lands and waste areas in New York. Varieties selected, in order of popularity, are red pine, Norway spruce, white spruce, Douglas fir, white cedar, and larch.



# Large gardens help feed Mississippi folks



In spite of a late spring, Mrs. T. A. Hamilton, Center Grove garden club leader, had large heads of cabbage and lettuce by the middle of May.

While his daddy is fighting overseas in Uncle Sam's armed forces, Ben Allen Douglas, 3 years old, helps his grandmother, Mrs. J. W. Douglas, of Center Grove, select the biggest turnip in her garden.



Folks in Center Grove Community, Oktibbeha County, Miss., really "live at home." They have large vegetable gardens, sometimes growing as many as 42 varieties in a year. Their home demonstration agent, Nannie R. Sullivant, is proud of the women's garden club and of the hundreds of quarts of vegetables and fruit that the women can and put on their shelves for eating after frosts have killed garden and fruit crops. Some of the women can 300 or 400 quarts of vegetables and fruits and a hundred quarts of meat.

All families have a few cows that they milk, and they raise livestock and poultry for their meat supply. They cooperate in the activities of their church and community and help each other with garden and farm work.

## Food-preservation training

Three food-preservation training schools were held at the New York State College of Home Economics during April, one for professional home economists, one for county leaders who will serve as teachers of food preservation in their own counties on funds provided by the New York State Emergency Food Commission, and one for recently appointed Extension Service workers. Approximately 250 women were trained at these three conferences. Most of this trained personnel will return to their counties and hold local training schools where

thousands of other local leaders and food preservation consultants will be trained.

County home demonstration agents, serving as nutrition coordinators in their counties, are working with county nutrition committees in setting up a coordinated food preservation program. Such a program will take into consideration the contribution which each agency can make.

At the State level, a directory has been compiled which includes the contribution which each State agency can make to a food preservation program. This directory will be sent to all county nutrition chairmen, homemaking teachers, Red Cross nutritionists, extension workers, Farm Security supervisors, home service representatives, and others in an effort to avoid duplication of effort in the county and community.

## Country stores help

Operators of country stores in several Missouri counties are making their places of business rallying points for extension programs in food production. The Douglas County agent and FSA supervisor held vegetable and poultry production demonstrations at all country stores in the county, announcing the visits well in advance and spending a whole day at each place. In Barton County, all but two country storekeepers now are women, so the home demonstration agent has enlisted all these women and the two men as canning aides.

## Bangs disease control

Regarded by livestock conservation authorities as one of the Nation's most significant programs, the brucellosis (Bang's disease) control project of the California Extension Service is now in the fourth year, with more than 65,000 dairy calves vaccinated.

The calfhood vaccination program, launched in 1941 with the voluntary cooperation of dairy operators, reported nearly 10,000 calves treated the first year. The number was more than doubled in the next year, and by 1943 the total number of vaccinations reached nearly 30,000, Dr. Kenneth McKay, extension specialist in veterinary science, reported. During the 3 years, more than 2,000 dairy operators participated in the program.

"A lot of credit for our showing goes to the fine cooperation farmers have shown in helping fight this trouble," Dr. McKay said. He also paid tribute to practicing veterinarians in 26 counties who have cooperated and to the extension agents and the university experiment station.





## Extension agents join fighting forces

The roll call of extension workers at the fighting front now includes 1,164 names, on every field of action. Additional names will be printed as they are received and the list kept up to date with the cooperative help of REVIEW readers. The Service flag for all extension workers with its six gold stars hangs on the fifth floor of Agriculture's South Building in Washington.

The six gold stars on the flag represent the following extension workers:

Lt. A. D. Curlee, formerly county agent in Alabama, Army, killed in action April 6, 1943.

Ensign Tom Parkinson, formerly assistant county agent in Henry County, Ind., Navy, missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Capt. Frank C. Shipman, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

1st Lt. Leo M. Tupper, of Nebraska, Army, killed in action.

William Flake Bowles, formerly assistant agent in Watauga County, N. C., Army, reported missing in action on the Italian front.

Ensign Robert H. Bond, of the Federal Extension staff, Washington, D. C., Navy, reported missing in action in the Southwest Pacific.

fresh vegetables come from local supplies, mainly; and we are able to get some local supplies of fruits, especially of oranges.

In spite of the fact that my workday is long, I still find a little time to satisfy my agricultural and scientific inclinations. I have a Victory Garden, too. I usually get about a half hour to an hour just before dark to work in my garden. So far, my plantings include radishes, cabbage, lettuce, cucumbers, squash, onions, garlic, peas, spinach, carrots, and tomatoes. Already I am harvesting lettuce and radishes. My seeds and plants are obtained from a local Italian farmer. I have to barter for them. My garden is my recreation, and I get a big kick out of it. I have some good pictures of myself working in my garden—"Former extension worker grows Victory Garden in Mussolini's back yard," or "Victory Garden, front line, hobby of fighting extension worker." Not bad, eh?

My brother, Tobe, surprised me a few days ago when he dropped in on me unexpectedly. He is fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy now. I had not seen him since our chance meeting in North Africa 7 months ago. He hitchhiked a ride over in an airplane, and I got a ride for him on one of our own aircraft back to Italy. He spent 2 days with me. Tobe has been overseas 22 months, and he has seen quite a lot of combat service. He expects to return to the States soon on rotation.

A recent news story about our group reads: "At A B-26 Base in Sardinia—The bull's-eye-blasting 319th Bomb Group of B-26 Marauders celebrated its 200th mission April 1 by attacking the railroad bridge at Incisa, Italy, just southeast of Florence on the main line to

## Gardening between bombings

■ You folks on the home front have made a success of the food-production program, as is indicated by the fact that recently we have been receiving excellent rations. Lately, we have been getting fresh meat two or three times a week. It is quite a contrast to the food situation when we first landed over here. We are now getting one bottle of a favorite soft drink a week, which is as welcome as a letter from home. Our





Rome." Since this story was published, we have done an even bigger job against the enemy. Recently, we have received two important citations for outstanding services, the details of which I cannot give in a letter. I am proud to have been a member of such a famous group—since its activation—and I am proud of our part in the final Victory which is impending. If it were not for the very effective work done by the Air Forces, the progress now being made in Italy could not have been possible.—*Maj. J. O. Rowell, formerly extension entomologist in North Carolina.*

## A Yank in China

■ Being a 4-H Club agent must be an interesting challenge these days trying to obtain maximum production of foodstuffs and, at the same time, to develop character in the midst of all this hate propaganda. Now, as never before, young people need to learn to think clearly and constructively.

I wish there were some way the 4-H program could be put over in China. There are thousands of boys and girls who work hard but have no incentive other than getting enough to eat and something to wear. They have a lot of ability and can learn jobs that are not too complicated in an amazingly short time. Most of the methods they use seem a bit primitive to us, but they do get the job done. As far as I can learn, most of the work with young people that has been accomplished so far has been done by missionaries. Of course, they are strictly limited as to scope due to limited funds and a lack of trained personnel. However, none of us can praise the missions too highly for the results of their work that we have seen and for their kindness and helpfulness to all of us. They seem to be the unofficial U. S. O. and are doing a marvelous job, as such.

This is an amazing country in many ways. The scenery is beautiful, with many mountains and much of it as it must have been hundreds of years ago. There are no hard-surfaced roads, and

most of the travel is by foot over stone paths that wind around the hills between villages. The coolies are fascinating to watch. They look rather frail but can carry enormous loads at a pace that few people can keep up with, walking light—and all on a few bowls of rice and a sort of pancake with vegetables inside. They seem to get the biggest kick out of living, are never in a hurry, and nothing seems to bother them.

The C. O. sent me on a trip to a village about 15 miles away. It took less than an hour to take care of the business details, and one of the interpreters thought it very strange. He says that a Chinese businessman would require a day to travel, two for making the acquaintance of the man with whom he wished to do business, two for the transactions, and one for saying goodbye to his friends. I asked the manager of a bank to communicate with his main office by telegraph and was informed that I could expect an answer in about 10 days. You can see why they think we are crazy to do things in a rush.

It is a lot of fun to eat with chopsticks, but I am far from an expert as yet. The food is all put in the center of the table, and everyone works from there. The dishes are mostly fish, fowl, and vegetables; but some are a combination such as bamboo shoots and pork or beef. Although the dishes taste a bit strange, we do fare pretty well but will all be glad to taste an American steak once more. From what I hear, you are probably saying "who wouldn't?"

Am trying to learn the language but can't report too much progress to date. The characters are much more difficult, but I want to be able to write a few simple sentences before I go back. Got to prove in some way that I have been out in the Far East.—*Lt. S. K. Benjamin, formerly district club agent in Cumberland, Cape May, and Atlantic Counties, N. J.*

■ As I am in England, I will give you my 2 pence worth. After some 8,000 miles of oceans, Africa, and Sicily, I find myself in England. Coming from a warm climate to a cold one was not so good. However, I am getting more

accustomed to it now. I am living in barracks for the first time since crossing. They are heated by fireplaces, and if you ever built a fire in the open to heat all the outside, you know what we have. We went through Scotland and can say that it is beautiful. They raise very good livestock here, especially their Clydesdale horses. The people here are grand and take the war and all its terror as a necessary evil. They are proud and tell you that you should see England in peacetime.

I am somewhat amused at some of the boys wanting to see foreign service. You might put my name down for a swap; as it is, I guess I can take it.—*Lt. Joseph Zitnik, Army., formerly Wichita County agent, Kansas.*

## The Roll Call

(Continued from last month)

### FEDERAL EXTENSION SERVICE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Julian Bartolini, Navy (Seabees).

Robert H. Bond, Navy, reported missing in action in Southwest Pacific.

Sgt. William D. Cratty, Army.

Robert Duncan, Navy.

Oral J. Fisher, Army.

S/1c. George F. Forrest, Navy.

Cpl. Eugene W. Gantt, Army.

James Gray, Army.

T. Sgt. Ralph E. Groening, Army.

Bn. Sgt. Frances Kern, Marines.

Jack Kidwell, Army.

Ida E. Kotchevar (field), WAVES.

Cpl. William H. Michaelis, Army.

Newell B. McDevitt, Army (Air).

Chester A. Nauminow, Army.

Richard L. Nealis, Navy.

T. Sgt. Sam E. Plattner, Army.

Delmar F. Reid, Marines.

Bernard Robinson, Army.

Laurel K. Sabrosky, American Red Cross.

Lt. (j. g.) Luke M. Schruben, Navy.

Cpl. Lawrence L. Shrader, Marines.

Ray F. Snapkoski, Army.

S/2c. John B. Speidel, Navy.

Lt. William E. Suber, Army.

Charles Taylor, Army.

Lt. Theodore W. Taylor, Navy.



## 4-H soldiers on their home front

■ School's out! Children from 6 to 16 years old go home. The younger children run to find their gang to play war, build airplanes, or hunt around the neighborhood for some excitement.

Mother and Dad will not be home until 6 o'clock. Older girls and boys from 12 to 16 are expected to look after younger brothers and sisters, prepare the supper, and help with the dishes and cleaning. These are America's 4-H soldiers working on the home front. It is this group of girls in Nassau County, N. Y., who offered help in the Hempstead Child Care Center, the summer day camps, and playgrounds, also to take care of the children of working neighbors.

The girls wanted to get some training in the care of children; so the 4-H leaders, Girl Scout leaders, and 4-H Club agent, assisted by Mrs. Ina Dillon, family life specialist at Cornell, worked together in developing a child-care course. The aims of our 4-H child-care course are: To help girls to be more skillful in caring for children in their own homes, in the homes of others, in child-care centers, summer camps, schools, and playgrounds; and to give girls a basic philosophy in child care.

The course is given in six 2-hour lectures with discussions on a child's needs and problems in guiding behavior, habit formation, and discipline. The girls learn how to study the child through observation. They become familiar with

arts, crafts, games, and stories for different ages.

The home work consisted of making two 10-minute observations of a child or a group of children doing some activity each week and keeping these observations with the lecture notes in a notebook.

A quiz was given at the close of the course, and the girls who had attended regularly and showed that they had acquired some understanding of child-care principles received child-care certificates.

One hundred and twenty girls completed this 4-H child-care course in 1943 and are carrying on the following activities:

Taking care of younger brothers and sisters at home and of neighbors' children at their homes; helping at the Hempstead and Williston Park child-care centers, summer camps, and playgrounds; helping at school, supervising lunchrooms and kindergartens at Elmont Road School, Elmont. As child-care aides, they also organized 4-H neighborhood war job clubs of children from 6 to 10 years old. The girls teach the children crafts, sewing, nature study, and recreation. There are four clubs organized in Hempstead, one in Mineola, and two in West Hempstead.

The girls meet every 3 weeks and plan their activities and programs with the county 4-H Club agent, Mrs. Dorothy P. Flint.

factor with the home-town boys, the club wrote a letter to each of the boys asking if he wanted it another year and enclosed cards for his reply. Twenty-three boys answered immediately. Many found the card too small to express their appreciation and wrote long letters urging the continuation of the "Searchlight Chatter." Others have not been heard from because of the time necessary to reach their outposts. Definitely, the paper will carry on for another year.

Each month now brings in 15 or 20 letters from readers. The boys write about the strange things they see; they tell of Oklahoma boys met in camp, of the food they get in the army, and many other things. Their sentiments about the paper are well expressed by a soldier writing from India:

"Just finished reading the 'Searchlight Chatter' for about the fourth time. I really enjoy those little sheets of paper. It kinda makes one feel like the folks back home are thinking about him and that helps a lot."

Members of the home demonstration club then turned their attention to the boys and girls at home. After talking things over, it seemed that the adolescent boys and girls were more deeply affected than any other group at home. Recreation was one of the major problems of the neighborhood teen-agers, so the women decided to ask the Thrift and Research clubs to join with them in sponsoring a Teen-Town.

Teen-Town is composed entirely of boys and girls in their teens and now has 68 members entirely self-governed. Any teen-age boy or girl is eligible, and service men and parents are always welcome. The school board granted the use of the school gymnasium for Teen-Town which meets every Friday night. The Clubs bought some games and equipment and got others donated. Badminton, table tennis, shuffleboard, monopoly, Chinese checkers, and various card games are available for those who like games and dancing for those who like that. Memberships are bought at 50 cents each, and 5 cents is charged for each admittance thereafter, with two free admittances each evening. Chaperons are always provided, but they quickly tell you there have been no discipline problems.

Community picnics for all provide recreation during the summer and are popular with the young folks. Altogether, the young folks in the neighborhood of the Searchlight Home Demonstration Club of Kiowa County, Okla., are lucky, and they know it. War has laid its heavy hand on the homes of the Searchlight Club, but they are valiantly fighting on the home front and holding their own.

## Growing up in Kiowa County, Okla.

■ Young people growing up within reach of the Searchlight Home Demonstration Club of Kiowa County, Okla., are lucky; and they know it.

First, these women of the Searchlight Club turned their attention to the young people in the neighborhood who had left to serve their country, many from Searchlight homes. They built an honor board for them, a 5 by 10-foot weatherproof pressboard with a gold waterproof painted frame and decorated with the American eagle and the flag. They had the names of 67 service men who had gone out from the community inscribed on the board. The unveiling, last September 7, which was quite an event in the community, was made more impressive by the participation of one of the boys home on furlough.

Then, it seemed to the women that there must be something they could do that would really help these boys and girls. They talked it over with the home

demonstration agent, Eva A. Stokes. The idea of a newspaper for the service men and women called "Searchlight Chatter" was suggested. The women decided to try it, and three editors were chosen who wrote down all the news they could dig up about the boys away from home and the happenings in the community, just the way they wrote letters to their own sons. A high school girl typed it, and the first edition was sent to 8 boys. In a few months the paper was mailed regularly to 40 boys and now 60 boys get the "Chatter." The extension clerk offered to mimeograph the paper; but the copy, the paper, and the stencils are supplied by the club. The paper goes to many States and also to India, Australia, Africa, China, the South Pacific islands, New Zealand, England, and the Aleutians. First-class mail is used so that it will be forwarded to the boys who have moved to new locations.

To get an idea on how it is working out and whether it really was a morale



# Custom spraying organized to aid the potato grower with few acres

O. D. BURKE, Extension Plant Pathologist, Pennsylvania Extension Service

In the autumn of 1938, Bert Straw, county agent in Potter County, Pa., voiced the need for more efficient use of potato spray equipment. In this mountainous area, late blight occurs annually, and growers know that profitable production depends on potato spraying. And yet, when each grower must own his sprayer, even if he has but 10 acres or less, it is anything but efficient.

Working on the problem, Agent Straw and I evolved a plan for trial. The farmers of a community would pool their acreages, making a full-time job for a community sprayer and would then hire an operator who would supply the best equipment available, furnish fungicides and water, and make the application weekly. The spraying was to be paid for on an acreage basis, with a minimum of 140 gallons to the acre application of 8-8-100 bordeaux.

Four communities were selected in Potter County as a proving ground in 1939. Their success was immediate and gave effective disease control on some 670 acres on more than 100 farms. In 1942 and 1943, the plan was tried again, with the added incentive of conserving materials and labor, as both are essential to the war effort.

## Spray Rings Served 1,834 Farmers

The year 1943 was outstanding. Seventy-five spray rings served 1,834 farmers and sprayed approximately 13,250 acres of potatoes—about one-thirteenth of the State's 176,000 acres.

The average amount of steel used in the construction of 1 of the community tractor-mounted sprayers used is approximately 2,200 pounds. A trailer or horse-drawn outfit that would have been used by each of the 1,834 growers averages 2,400 pounds of steel and 2 rubber tires. This means 4,401,600 pounds of steel and 3,168 rubber tires that would have been needed under the old system of spraying. The 165,000 pounds (82.25 tons) actually used is a negligible amount compared to the 4,236,600 pounds (2,218.2 tons) saved.

Actually, there is a much greater saving than just the sprayers when one considers the supply pumps and tanks that were made unnecessary by community use of equipment.

The saving in labor was just as marked

as that of steel. The operator of a commercial sprayer averages about 4 acres an hour with the use of 2 men. The home operator must first get his equipment cleaned and ready for use, must prepare the chemicals used, and after the application the sprayer must again be prepared for storage. On the average, the small grower has been able to spray his 3 to 5 acres in slightly more than half a day, using 2 men, or from an hour to an hour and a half per acre. This means some 26,000 man-hours saved in each application of all the spray rings in the State, or approximately 260,000 man-hours for an average of 10 spray applications during the season.

## Yield Increased 100 Bushels Per Acre

Sprayed potatoes in 1943 in Pennsylvania showed an increased yield of more than 100 bushels per acre, even on early varieties, over unsprayed potatoes in the same field. This means that the 13,250 acres sprayed produced 1,326,000 more bushels than would have been produced had the spray rings not been in operation. This is about one-fifteenth of the State's total production.

Five years' work with this type of spray ring has led to recommendations that have been successfully used in "commercial type spray ring" organizations in Pennsylvania and New York.

First, a closely knit organization, with directors and a president having power to hire the operator and to take the responsibility of seeing that everything operates smoothly, seems essential.

Spray rings have been run on the commercial basis, with the operator purchasing and owning all equipment. Operator ownership promotes better spraying methods as satisfaction is essential to the continuation of the program. The farmers take no responsibility for this equipment.

Acreage necessary for successful operation cannot be definitely set; but the closer these acres are together and the larger the fields, the lower the per-acre price may be. The price set in rings in 1943 ranged from \$2 to \$2.50 per application. The lowest acreage in any one spray ring was 125, and the largest more than 250. The selection of 150 acres permitted the operator to make his rounds on time and to give satisfactory blight

control under the serious blight-epidemic conditions prevalent in 1942.

As to minimum acres per farm, again no definite figure has been set; but, rather, accessibility of the acreage to the normal spray route has determined small-patch acceptance into the spray ring. As low as 1 acre has in many instances been sprayed.

Ten-row outfits mounted on a rubber-tired tractor have proved most satisfactory and have been quite usable even on sidehill land. Two and one-half gallons per minute per row at 350-pound pressure is the minimum requirement for a pump used throughout the rings organized in Pennsylvania. A flexible, light boom easily adjusted is essential. Tubular construction has been satisfactory. Tractor make and size must, to a certain extent, depend on manufacturers' guarantees, prices, and adaptability to the job. Four-wheel tractors have been most practicable. It is difficult to overpower but easy to underpower.

Filling equipment to be used on the supply truck can be a rotary pump gasoline engine powered or power take-off from truck transmission. Rotary pump should be capable of pumping 100 gallons per minute. A supply truck on which the filling pump and also a supply tank are mounted is an essential. Size of tank of the truck should be at least 600 gallons. One thousand- to 1,200-gallon capacity is not too large for economical operation.

Bluestone in the form usually sold as "snow" has been most satisfactory in our experience for making "instant bordeaux," and rapidly made bordeaux seems essential.

Hydrated lime especially prepared for spraying purposes has been used. The lime should be as fine as 300 mesh and freshly prepared. The bordeaux mixture in our spray rings is prepared by the sprayer operator.

## Nutrition exhibits

Tompkins County, N. Y., is illustrating a year's program of nutrition exhibits in the windows of a vacant store in Ithaca. These exhibits are sponsored by different civic organizations led by the Tompkins County Nutrition Committee and the Tompkins County Home Bureau. Between the windows, the home bureau maintains an information booth with free recipes and such homemakers' helps as pressure cooker gauge testing. The April and May windows were in charge of the extension office and the Victory Garden committee so that preservation aids will follow garden information material. The home demonstration agent and the nutrition assistant take turns working at the information booth.



# A day in Minnesota

**T. SWANN HARDING, Editor, U.S.D.A. visits a county agent**

■ In late May I had an opportunity to ride circuit all day with a county agent. This took place in Hennepin County, Minn., and the agent was Harold C. Pederson. He maintains an office in downtown Minneapolis and had already stopped by for an hour or so of work when he picked me up at my hotel at 9 a. m. Our first call took us some little distance out into the country.

Here we were to see a farmer who became riled because, while his boy was in the Navy, other farm boys nearby appeared to have been deferred unnecessarily and, besides, they kidded him and his wife for having to do all their own work now. The farmer and his wife, both of whom seemed over 50, were cutting asparagus when we arrived and lugging the heavy baskets around the field.

## Agent Visits Irate Farmer

The man turned out to be sincere. His agitation was real, and he was no crank. He had written the local draft board a pretty peppy letter and they had asked the county agent to investigate. While the mother told me about her son on the old battleship Texas, the agent got details from the enraged farmer and reduced his temperature below that of spontaneous combustion. He seemed to be quite mollified when we left and to feel that honest investigation would be made.

## A Call for Farm Help

Our next call concerned placement of a high school girl on a farm, but the farmer had already scared up a hired man from somewhere. He was young and talked to us awhile with a suspicious eye. Then we dropped in on another farmer, who with his wife, was bunching asparagus in a shed. That's no easy job either, and rubber bands of inferior quality, which often break, and have to be processed in hot water before using, make it no easier by costing three times what good ones formerly cost. The agent joshed the farmer about getting crooked stalks in the middle of the bunches, and he said: "You've been bunching asparagus somewhere else; you didn't learn that trick here!"

Suddenly he looked up: "My neighbor says some kind of bug is getting in his strawberries." He described it a little and the agent said "sawflies." The farmer hopped up and started off at a good imitation of a trot. "Come on down

and look at mine and see if the bugs in 'em," he hollered back. We went. The bugs were there. The agent prescribed a spray and we left.

We went back into Minneapolis to lunch with the FFFF Committee of the Minneapolis Defense Council's Consumer Interest Division, Mrs. A. N. Satterlee, chairman. Reports were rather mournful. General public lethargy seemed to obtain on the urban front. Lifting of rationing from meats and processed foods had made the public think rationing was over for the duration. Why can? Why garden?

Early sales of garden seed were down. It looked as if there would be 15 percent fewer instead of the goal, 100 percent more, gardens this year than last. Inquiries for canning equipment lagged. The weather had been bad too. Plans were made to give out information that would help to dissipate the lethargy. The committee chairman was competent and well-informed; the committee members interested and helpful.

## Running Down a Draft Rumor

Then, about 2 p. m., we went out into the county again driving perhaps 50 to 75 miles all told, visiting various farmers and chasing down the draftee situation reported by the first man visited. Nearly all the farmers greeted the agent with happy expectancy and he was always quietly competent, helpful, and reassuring. He knew the answers to practically all questions they brought up, and they were wide in scope. Should they inoculate their soybeans and, if so, how? What spray was best for this or that? Then questions concerning labor, regulations, WFA orders and all sorts of things were asked. The agent was all the time plugging a pasture carrying-capacity survey and giving out mimeographed forms to be filled in. This county is devoted mostly to truck farming and dairy production for the Twin City milkshed. Many of the farmers are prosperous; one had a gross cash income of \$850 monthly and others were not so far behind.

We dined on the shores of Lake Minnetonka, but didn't see the lady who liked the waters thereof. That evening we attended a "farm bureau unit" meeting in a village town hall. The weather had turned good that day and the farmers were working hard. They arrived late, and the meeting didn't get under

way till after 9 p. m. They went out and bought pop and candy bars for "refreshments."

Pederson spoke on spring and early-summer spray schedules for fruits. I spoke just to give them an idea of what a live bureaucrat looked like. The meeting chairman said there were too "durned" many bureaucrats in Washington anyway, and made me feel rather superfluous facing these earthy producers who stood firm in the soil. But it was all good-natured joshing.

We got back to the hotel at 11:15 p. m. The agent then started out to see whether his family still recognized him. The day was not unusual. Five days a week he does something like this, attending 30 to 35 meetings and making 40 to 50 farm visits monthly. Monday he spends in his office. Saturday evening and all day Sunday he reserves to be with his family. County agents really work. So do farmers. I wouldn't know about Washington bureaucrats.

## No more V Garden speeches

Mrs. Maud Doty and Cecil Pragnell, extension agents of Bernalillo County, N. Mex., have come up with a practical demonstration technique that will pay dividends in Albuquerque Victory Gardens this summer.

Recalling their sand-table days in school, they pulled a trick out of the hat that is making new "V" gardens grow on plots that produced only bindweed and ash piles last year.

It goes like this: You put down a large piece of cardboard and cover it with 2 inches of dirt. Then you go through the gardening process, planting seeds at the approved depths, cultivating the soil, and applying fertilizers and other commercial preparations designed to give "oomph" to your Victory vegetables. You do everything but grow and harvest the crop right in front of the audience. As Mr. Pragnell says, the harvest comes later.

"We've quit making speeches," Mrs. Doty said. "The demonstration is working too well. We just hold our breath and watch the audience's interest grow. People ask us so many questions that the garden program never takes less time than an hour and a half.

Mrs. Doty and Mr. Pragnell began their work with the 225 members of the 12 women's clubs in the county, but recently they've branched out. They have given their demonstration before more than 41 clubs, besides several groups of school children. Now they're planning to demonstrate chicken culling in the same way, although they'll probably wait until they get home to knock the poor producers in the head.



# Extension work reaches Brazil



Dr. Clara Sambaquy (left) accompanies Mrs. Celia S. Hissong on a visit to a home demonstration club in Jones County, Miss.

■ Home demonstration and 4-H Club work, as conducted in the United States, has reached Brazil. Wanting to learn more about such work to help them in starting similar work in their own country, two doctors of Brazil, Edison Cavalcanti, M. D., director of the Social Welfare Nutrition Service, and Clara Sambaquy, M. D., pediatrician and nutrition specialist, Rio de Janeiro, recently spent about 4 months in the United States studying extension work.

Dr. Cavalcanti's organization is trying hard to improve the homemaking and nutrition habits of the mass of the Brazilian people. While here, Dr. Cavalcanti and Dr. Sambaquy were shown methods and results of nutrition work among poorly nourished people. Both having been trained in medicine, they were much interested in seeing the cooperative work between the county health service and extension work in the States.

Dr. Sambaquy is especially interested in 4-H Club work, food, nutrition, and child care. While here she spent most of her time in Mississippi and Georgia with county home demonstration agents and extension specialists.

During her stay in Mississippi she visited for about a month in Jones County where Mrs. Celia S. Hissong, home demonstration agent, showed her methods of conducting home demonstration and club work, especially those relating to nutrition and child care. She also attended a short course in nutrition in

Jackson and visited schools to learn more about school lunches.

Dr. Cavalcanti and Dr. Sambaquy were accompanied for a short time by June Leith of Ames, Iowa, who acted as interpreter when they first arrived in the United States. Miss Leith spent several years in Brazil as nutritionist for the Food Supply Division of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs. Before the three came to the United States, Miss Leith gave a nutrition course to 50 girls in Brazil. Some of these girls have been chosen to do extension work in that country and are now in Rio de Janeiro taking specialized training. When Dr. Sambaquy returns to her own country she will train one girl for each State in Brazil where extension work will be organized.

## Indiana works on a milk-production program

An educational program launched last year and designed to stimulate interest in dairying in Indiana has proved markedly successful, according to E. A. Gannon, extension dairyman at Purdue University. This program played a substantial part in enabling Hoosier dairymen to meet the milk-production goals set for Indiana last year. It is said to be helping even more toward meeting this year's goal of 3½ billion pounds of milk.

The educational campaign was sup-

ported through the Indiana newspapers and farm publications, with more than 2,000 articles published last year.

Sixteen dairy schools were held throughout January and February for managers and field men. During the first 8 meetings, in which the Indiana Food-for-Freedom program was discussed, 175 of a possible 200 representatives of manufacturing concerns attended. The agronomy department at Purdue cooperated in holding the last 8 meetings, the subject of which was pastures.

A mimeographed publication by the Indiana Milk and Cream Improvement Association was distributed to managers and field men, and creamery field men were urged to hold schools for route drivers on the subjects of the Food-for-Freedom program and pastures. Eight meetings on "quality" were held in April. Series of 12 monthly calendars or news letters were prepared for the dairy industry to be sent to farmers with their pay checks. This subject matter also is printed on tags and wired onto the empty milk cans returned to the dairymen.

The dairy industry is also cooperating in holding 110 meetings with dairymen throughout the State, discussing ways to boost milk production.

At district extension conferences, Indiana county agents have been informed of the eight-point program and the Purdue extension dairy program. A total of 150,000 eight-point dairy production program leaflets published by Purdue are being distributed.

Many dairy plants have arranged to buy Sudan grass and other pasture grass seeds for distribution to their patrons, deducting the costs from the patrons' checks. An envelope stuffer prepared by the Purdue agronomy department on Sudan grass pasture has been distributed.

Fast-milking demonstrations have been held in 40 Indiana counties, and a fast-milking leaflet is available. Many counties are getting out a one-page leaflet for distribution to producers.

A goal has been set to put a "foundation" under the dairy industry with a long-time pasture program and a quality winter roughage program. A bull program is being developed along club lines with the cooperation of breeders. By this means, Indiana is working on a sound educational program to increase milk production.

■ Thirty-two of the 71 4-H county club agents of New York State are former 4-H Club members, including 14 of the 24 women agents and 18 of the 47 men. As 4-H members, they lived in 21 New York State counties, 1 county in Vermont and 1 county in Massachusetts.



# Among Ourselves

■ THE "FOUR OLD MEN" among Maine's county agents—old in the sense that each has served more than 20 years—have had a unique opportunity to observe the changing Maine farm scene and, indeed, to help bring about many of the desirable changes.

The four are W. S. Rowe, Cumberland County; R. H. Lovejoy, York County; R. C. Wentworth, Knox and Lincoln Counties; and Verne C. Beverly, Aroostook County. Collectively, they have served for more than 86 years as representatives of the College of Agriculture and the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

All have about the same conclusion after their varied experience in two decades devoted to "giving of instruction and practical demonstration in agriculture . . . and imparting information through field demonstrations, publications, and otherwise."

They believe that the extension program, as adopted by farmers themselves, is essentially sound although unspectacular.

■ RAY LOVEJOY, located in York County, has been a neighbor of "Sherm" Rowe for 17 of his 20 years as county agent. Ray says:

"I look back over a period of remarkable changes in farming. For example, certified seed potatoes introduced by the Extension Service at that time boosted the 100 to 150 bushels an acre yield up to 200 or 300 bushels. Dairy herd-improvement associations set the stage for an increase in milk production from about 4,000 pounds a cow to the present level of more than 6,000 pounds in herds now being tested for association members.

"Poultrymen seem to be feeling a bit downhearted right now because of high feed costs and low egg prices, but how would they feel if it were 20 years ago when 120 eggs per bird was high production? During these years we have, by better breeding, feeding, housing, and general management, come to look upon 175- to 200-egg birds as just good producers.

"And finally there are the apple growers. I have followed the production of apples through the rapid transitional period when several hundreds of family-size and small commercial orchards producing 50 to 500 bushels of fruit of the

old varieties have given way to the smaller number of more specialized and large-size orchards of 1,000 to 10,000 trees, chiefly of the McIntosh variety. Disease-free and worm-free apples that bring good farm incomes are now the rule, rather than the exception as was the case 20 years ago. Tractors, radios, electric service, good gravel, and hard-surface roads have also come to our farms mostly in the past 20 years. And what a difference they make in the life of the farmer!"

■ VERNE BEVERLY, at the other end of the State, has had an unusually good observation post to study the Aroostook potato industry. He says:

"One of the most satisfying angles of my job is to assist in the development of leaders. I have watched many farmers, some of them not outstanding at first, as they developed an interest in the extension program and did a better job because of that interest. Many of them have been ready when the call came from other organizations for capable leaders in the county. I don't say that we trained these men, but we worked with them; and because of what they learned they have been valuable to the county.

"Another thing that has impressed me is the fact that the extension program is sound; and, although much of the work is not spectacular, I think we have shown progress. Our farm bureau membership this year is approximately 1,980. This indicates that the Aroostook farmers and homemakers are supporting this organization."

■ RALPH WENTWORTH sums up his 23 years in Knox and Lincoln Counties in these words:

"In looking back over the past 20 years of Extension Service work in these counties, I see many changes.

"The farm people are living better, have more money. Electricity is now available to most farm homes, and with electricity came labor-saving equipment for the farm as well as in the home.

"Poultry, the outstanding farming enterprise in the county, has shown many changes. In the early days, a 25- to 30-percent loss in chicks raised was not considered serious; now a 10-percent loss is too much. Size of flocks has increased.

"The dairy herds have also shown an increase as well as better production. The first year the dairy herd-improvement association was in operation in the county the number of herds tested averaged 8.3 cows and 385 pounds of milk, and 19 pounds of butterfat per month. For the month of January 1944, the herds in the county under test averaged 20 cows and 677 pounds of milk and 29.9 pounds of butterfat."

■ SHERMAN ROWE says:

"About 23 years ago I started in—green as grass—as county agent in Cumberland County. I bounced around in my brand new flivver, bounced because there were then some 100 miles of hard-surfaced roads compared with 1,523 miles today.

"I have seen many changes. We have fewer farms, fewer cows, and better cows. Instead of cream and butter, we market fluid milk. Tuberculosis of cattle has been eradicated, pullorum disease of poultry controlled, and old pastures converted to abundant sources of feed. Better bulls, dairy herd-improvement work, and cooperative breeding associations have become available. We lost 168,346 bearing apple trees; now I see Ben Davis and Stark trees growing McIntosh apples. Acres that once grew peas and potatoes now produce top-quality Iceburg lettuce for the local and Boston markets.

"Waste cropland has been planted to forest trees, and improved wood lots produce better-quality timber.

"But I have seen more than crops and livestock grow. Most important of all, I have watched with pride the development of rural leadership."

■ RACHEL MARKWELL takes up the duties of State home demonstration leader in Michigan to replace Edna V. Smith who retires from this position July 1 after being associated with the Extension Service for 26 years.

Miss Markwell has been serving on the Federal staff as emergency war food supervisor for the Central States since February 1944. Born on a farm near Oklahoma City, Okla., she received her educational training in Oklahoma schools, graduating from the State A. & M. College and later receiving her master's degree in home economics education from Columbia University.

Before entering extension work, Miss



Markwell taught home economics in the high schools of Oklahoma and Kansas and then entered the Extension Service as home demonstration agent in the same two States. For 3 years she was district home demonstration agent of the Kansas Extension Service at Manhattan and for 4 years was State extension agent in Missouri.

Edna V. Smith joined the extension staff at Michigan State College in 1916 as a general specialist. Later, she became extension specialist in home management, and in 1930 she was appointed State home demonstration leader. As organizer and supervisor of home economics extension in Michigan, Miss Smith, through her staff, has taken better home management practices to Michigan's 83 counties.

In announcing Miss Smith's retirement, Director Baldwin stated:

"Miss Smith has exemplified the spirit of extension work in her desire to be of service. She knows and likes rural people and feels that she is one of them. She has a keen understanding of their lives, their problems, and their needs. No homes were too poor and none too

rich to be reached by the program she developed. Homemaking to her was more than housekeeping. The development of the family and the fundamental satisfaction of living were strong objectives in all her efforts. Her influence will be greatly missed in extension circles."

■ **JOSEPH B. TURPIN**, Mercer County, N. J., 4-H Club agent, was honored on April 27 by his friends and coworkers for 25 years of successful service to 4-H Club work in his county. The county club agents, the State director of extension, and other extension workers met in Trenton to take part. During his quarter of a century, the 4-H Club work has steadily grown in the hearts and affections of the people of the county. His early club members in the county have grown to maturity and married, and many of their children are now in 4-H Club work. Mr. Turpin was presented with gifts and many testimonials of regard from every part of the State. Dr. C. B. Smith, formerly chief of the Office of Cooperative Extension Work in Washington, D. C., represented the Federal office in honoring Mr. Turpin.

very happy surprise when contrasted to their pre-war customs when labor was plentiful. It wasn't a seller's market then.

The VFV's have carried out a successful "blitz" in asparagus cutting, and in Illinois they have established a firm beachhead on the farm-labor front.

## The tables reversed

The Franklin County, N. Y., 4-H Clubs voted to help support the local Kiwanis Club drives in obtaining clothing for Belgium. As the Kiwanis Clubs have contributed much support to 4-H in the county, it was felt that here was an opportunity for the clubs to do something for Kiwanis. Girls in homemaking received an additional unit of credit for clothing if they washed, cleaned, and mended the garments which they collected. When the drive ended on April 28, much more than a ton of clothing had been turned in by the various 4-H Clubs and totaled a little more than 900 articles. This was nearly as much clothing as the total collection made in the village of Malone by the Kiwanians themselves, reports J. Frank Stephens, 4-H Club agent in Franklin County.

## VFV's tackle the asparagus

■ School youth saved more of the early asparagus crop in the asparagus area in eastern Illinois than any other group of cutters, according to University of Illinois Agricultural Extension Farm Labor representatives. Before the canners received assistance from the Army's prisoners of war the VFV's made the greatest contribution in cutting the crop.

Approximately 275 boys and girls from Hoopeston, Milford, Rossville, and Watseka, were transported every day in busses to the fields over the area comprising more than 1,000 acres. The VFV's start to cut at 6 a. m. and cut from 4 to 6 hours. Girls are believed by some of the supervisors to be more efficient cutters than boys. Most successful supervision was given by high school coaches or teachers acquainted with the youth.

According to canning representatives, a good VFV cutter can handle 1 3/4 acres a day. The average, however, would be more nearly an acre. On the week end of May 14 and for a few days following, summer temperatures after several weeks of cool, wet weather caused the asparagus to jump out of the ground, figuratively speaking. Had it not been for the VFV asparagus corps, a tremendous loss would have occurred. The cutting season ends about July 1.

As a result of this experience, the canner's respect for the ability of youth when properly trained and supervised is a

George Hooper—a happy lad from Watseka, Ill., is sorting his cutting at one of the Milford Canning Company fields.



## 4-H teaches soil conservation

One hundred and forty-three 4-H Club boys in 23 Mississippi counties are conducting demonstrations in soil conservation. Each boy is taught to make or use a map of his farm showing conditions at the start of the program and then each year thereafter to show changes effected. Following the establishment of the necessary mechanical erosion-control measures, other soil-building practices consistent with a good farm conservation plan are added. Members of these clubs are receiving assistance from soil-conservation districts. Each member is eligible after 2 years of successful work to compete for a scholarship to the State College of Agriculture.

## Land-use planning committees revived

Rural policy committees are being set up in most rural counties in New York State. Generally, these county committees are the former county land use planning committees reorganized to fit needs. They are made up of farmers, homemakers, and some other persons interested in rural needs and representing all locally important rural organizations. One of the first jobs for these county rural policy committees will be to recommend procedures in the relocation of war veterans and industrial workers returning to the land.



# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

FIRST RURAL SERVICE conference to be held in South Carolina was held early in the new year with 70 persons present representing Clemson College, REA, the utilities, the cooperatives, manufacturers, and the Grange. The conference was called by W. J. Ridout, Jr., extension specialist in agricultural engineering, just the day before he reported for duty in the Navy. It was an educational conference with a committee of 4 utility men and 4 co-op men appointed to arrange for another meeting of the group later.

THE 8-POINT MILK PRODUCTION PROGRAM gathers momentum. Folders from Vermont, Washington, and Alabama are straws in the wind. The Vermont publication carries especially attractive photographs and uses orange color effectively. The red and blue printing on white stock gives the Washington bulletin a patriotic flavor, and the cartoon gives it pep and humor. The Alabama leaflet also uses cartoons effectively and presents the eight points briefly and understandably.

FIRST COUNTY to go over the top in South Dakota Fifth War Loan Drive was Gregory, a strictly rural county. The intensive efforts of 173 4-H Club members were among the big factors in this record. Two days before the war loan drive opened officially, the quota was \$7,000 oversubscribed, making the fifth county in the United States to meet its quota. Three war bond auctions held June 2 and 3 plus a farm-to-farm canvass by 4-H Club members brought in \$385,000 in war bonds. Heavy rains made roads next to impassable; but in spite of it, the young people called on every farmer in the county and decorated store windows.

SERIES OF ADVERTISEMENTS on milk production have been worked out in Minnesota by Paul C. Johnson, the extension editor, and the dairy specialists, cooperating with the Minnesota Editorial Association. They are not mere slogans but contain good educational material on such subjects as too early grazing, cutting hay a week or 10 days early to increase protein content, efficient ways of keeping milk sweet and clean, or a 2-minute method for washing the cream separator. The secretary of the State Editorial Association is enthusiastic and anticipates a 100-percent coverage from

the 445 daily and weekly rural newspapers in the State.

IS THIS A NATIONAL RECORD? ask St. Louis County, Minn., farmers of the radio record of County Agent August Neubauer who has been giving weekly broadcasts to farm people for the past 11 years. There are seven agents in the county who, over the 11 years, have put on 1,500 15-minute broadcasts.

INTEREST IN HANDICRAFTS grows with rehabilitation plans. The seventh session of the National Weavers' Conference, to be held in New York City August 22-31, and the fifteenth annual session of the Penland School of handicrafts, June 14 to August 29, are emphasizing occupational therapy in rehabilitation service. The weavers are also emphasizing the spinning of native fiber. Information on the New York conference is available from Mrs. Osma Gallinger, director of Creative Crafts Weaving School, Guernsey, Pa.

FOR FOLK FESTIVALS in the community, useful suggestions will be found in a new 64-page handbook giving definite directions for organization and how to search for material, as well as something of the background of the major folk songs, music, and dances. A bib-

liography of about 600 books indicates how to get more detailed information when it is needed. The Community Folk Festival Handbook may be obtained from the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association, 621 Bulletin Building, Filbert and Juniper Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

SUPERVISORY PROBLEMS were under discussion at an extension conference in Ohio, June 27 and 28, when four New York extension supervisors met with Ohio supervisors and Charles Potter and Karl Knaus of the Washington office to exchange experiences on some of the problems arising out of rapid personnel turn-over and the accelerated wartime program.

NEW SAFETY LEAFLETS for inexperienced farm workers, issued by the National Safety Council, are proving useful for Victory Farm Volunteers and Women's Land Army members. The small check list for VFV camp and day-haul workers folds up neatly to fit the pocket. The red-white-and-blue bulletin for those who live on the farm spreads out into a poster to be tacked on the wall. They both bring out the essentials of keeping fit on the farm front. July 23-29 is National Safety Week.

A RURAL YOUTH PROGRAM for the Extension Service is under discussion July 7 and 8 in Washington with the Land-Grant College Association subcommittee on rural youth taking part. Members of this committee are Director H. C. Ramsower of Ohio, chairman; Director W. A. Munson, Massachusetts; Director D. W. Watkins, South Carolina; Ella May Cresswell, State leader, home demonstration agents, Mississippi; Myrtle Davidson, State leader, home demonstration agents, Utah; Onah Jacks, State Girls' club agent, Texas; E. W. Aiton, assistant State 4-H Club leader, Minnesota; Pauline M. Reynolds, specialist in older youth work, North Dakota; and A. B. Poundstone, farm management specialist, Kentucky.

SOUTH DAKOTA has listed as the principal 1944 labor goals: (1) to help obtain more efficient use of present labor in such ways as simplification of farm jobs and greater exchange of labor and machinery; (2) to step up the tempo of local mobilization programs to attract a greater number of nonfarm youth and women for farm jobs, as well as business and professional men, during the rush seasons to help in the production and harvesting of the crops; (3) to obtain greater numbers of interstate and foreign workers when and where they are needed.

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